

## 2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Hydrographic Services Review Panel

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of Commerce

### 2. Fiscal Year

2018

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Hydrographic Services Review Panel

### 3b. GSA Committee No.

16608

### 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

08/31/2017

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

08/31/2019

### 7. Expected Term Date

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

### 8c. Actual Term Date

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

### 11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

P.L. 107-372, Section 105

### 13. Effective Date

12/19/2002

### 14. Committee Type

Continuing

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee Other Committee

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

3

### 16b. Report Date

#### Report Title

05/02/2018 HSRP Issue Paper: Marine and Geospatial Data Infrastructure Is Vital to the U.S. Blue Economy

05/09/2018 HSRP Issue Paper: The NOAA Hydrographic Survey Fleet: A Critical National Asset

05/10/2018 HSRP Issue Paper: Making Precision Navigation the New Norm in Approaches and Ports

### Number of Committee Reports Listed: 3

17a. Open 2 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 2

### Meetings and Dates

#### Purpose

Public meeting of the HSRP as required by the HSIA legislation.

Public meeting of the HSRP as required by the HSIA legislation.

#### Start

04/04/2018

08/28/2018

#### End

- 04/05/2018

- 08/30/2018

### Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

### Current FY Next FY

### 18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members

\$31,000.00 \$33,000.00

### 18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members

\$37,500.00 \$37,500.00

<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$269,236.00	\$269,236.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$35,898.49	\$25,000.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$8,892.70	\$10,000.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$53,792.45	\$25,000.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$586,319.64	\$549,736.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	1.70	1.70

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The HSRP was established and directed by P.L. 107-372 to provide advice to the NOAA Administrator on matters and responsibilities set forth in Section 303 of the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act (HSIA) of 1998 and its amendments of 2002 and 2008, and on other appropriate matters as the NOAA Administrator refers to the Panel for review and advice. The Panel is a Federal Advisory Committee that advises the NOAA Administrator on carrying out NOAA's navigation services mission, which is to ensure safe, efficient, and environmentally sound movement of commerce along America's marine transportation system. This advice is provided to the NOAA Administrator through reports, issue papers, and formal Recommendation Letters.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

The voting members of the panel are individuals who, by reason of knowledge, experience, or training are especially qualified in one or more of the disciplines and fields relating to hydrographic surveying: tides, currents, geodetic and geospatial measurement, marine transportation, port administration, vessel pilotage, and coastal or fishery management, and other disciplines as determined appropriate by the NOAA Administrator. Number of Members: 19. The HSRP Charter states, "The Panel shall consist of fifteen voting members appointed by the Administrator in accordance with the provisions and prohibitions of Section 105 of the Act. Members will be selected on a clear, standardized basis, in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidance. The Co-Directors of the Joint Hydrographic Center and two other employees of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall serve as non-voting members of the Panel."

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

The HSRP has at least 2 public meetings a year as proscribed by Public Law 107-372 which states, "The panel shall meet on a biannual basis and, at any other time, at the call of the Chairman or upon the request of a majority of the voting members or of the

Secretary." The HSRP reviews current issues and topics of interest requested by the members and NOAA.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The HSRP is essential to carry out the responsibilities established under the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998 and its Amendments of 2002 and 2008. The navigation and hydrographic surveying expertise of the HSRP is not performed by any other Department, Federal agency, or other existing committees.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

N/A

**21. Remarks**

**Designated Federal Officer**

Shep Smith Director, Office of Coast Survey

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Armstrong, Andy	09/01/2016	09/30/2019	Co-director, Center for Coastal Ocean Mapping, NOS, NOAA, USDOC	Ex Officio Member
Atkinson, Larry	02/24/2015	01/01/2023	Ocean observations, Old Dominion University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Blackwell, Juliana	09/01/2016	09/30/2019	Director, National Geodetic Survey, NOS, NOAA, USDOC	Ex Officio Member
Duffy, Sean	01/01/2018	01/01/2022	Executive Director, Big River Coalition	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Edwing, Richard	09/01/2016	09/30/2019	Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services, NOS, NOAA, USDOC	Ex Officio Member
Gee, Lindsay	01/01/2016	01/01/2020	Consultant	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hall, Kim	01/01/2016	01/01/2020	Cruise Lines Industry Association (CLIA)	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Kelly, Edward (Ed)	01/01/2014	01/01/2022	Maritime Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lockhart, Carol	11/27/2012	01/01/2019	Hydrography/LiDAR Technology	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Maune, Dave	02/24/2015	01/01/2023	Geodesy Dewberry LLC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Mayer, Larry	01/01/2018	12/31/2019	Co-Director, Center for Coastal Ocean Mapping, UNH	Ex Officio Member
McIntyre, Anne	01/01/2016	01/01/2020	Pilot	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Miller, Joyce	01/02/2011	01/01/2019	Oceanography, Surveying & Mapping	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Page, Ed	01/01/2018	01/01/2022	Executive Director, Marine Exchange of Alaska	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Rassello, Salvatore	02/24/2015	01/01/2022	Navigation Director, Carnival Cruise Lines	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Saade, Ed	01/01/2016	01/01/2020	President, FUGRO	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Shingledecker, Susan	01/02/2011	01/01/2019	Recreational Boating	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Thomas, Julie	01/01/2018	01/01/2022	Program Manager, Coastal Data Information Program	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Thompson, Gary	01/01/2016	01/01/2020	NC Geodetic Survey	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 19**

## Narrative Description

The HSRP is legislatively mandated to provide advice to the NOAA Administrator on the responsibilities and authorities set forth in the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act (HSIA) 2002, and its Amendments, and other appropriate matters the NOAA Administrator refers to the HSRP for review and advice. The advice and recommendations of the HSRP directly supports NOAA's hydrographic services, geospatial and positioning, and coastal resilience mission. The HSRP's advice and recommendations is used to implement strategic improvements to NOAA's hydrographic survey priorities; storm surge and tidal prediction models; geospatial and positioning, and coastal resilience products, services, and information. NOAA values the advice and recommendations from the HSRP and uses this information to fulfill its mission for understanding and predicting changes in the Earth's environment and to conserve and manage coastal and marine resources to meet the Nation's economic, social, and environmental needs.

## What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Outcome Comments

The HSRP provides advice and recommendations to the NOAA Administrator on many mission-related programs. Some of the programs that benefit from HSRP input include Nautical Charting, Hydrographic Services, Water Levels and Currents, Physical Oceanographic Real-Time Systems PORTS®, the National Water Level Observation

Network (NWLON), Height Modernization, U.S. Shoreline Definitions, Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS), Response and Restoration, and Wetlands Restoration. HSRP input ultimately affects the U.S. Marine Transportation System (MTS) and the Nation by providing advice which improves the protection of life and property, efficient and environmentally sound marine transportation, emergency response capabilities, and coastal zone management. Every U.S. citizen relies on the MTS for energy delivery, exports, transportation, cost-effective consumer goods, recreation, and environmental protection.

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Cost Savings Comments**

There are many examples of anecdotal and indirect cost savings from the HSRP recommendations, especially from a navigation services, safety, security and economic perspective. The HSRP has encouraged partnerships, data sharing, and technological advancement with a variety of private sector, university, and other partners. Direct cost savings figures are not available. Indirect cost savings would total in the millions of dollars. HSRP recommendations, if realized within the multi-agency Committee for Marine Transportation Services (CMTS), offer appreciable savings through aggressively mapping the Nation's shorelines and navigationally significant waters; integrating coastal mapping efforts and ensuring federally maintained channels, approaches, and anchorages are surveyed to the highest standard ("the Athos I incident alone cost the ship owner and his insurer over \$165 million... the true value of wildlife lost and port commerce delayed or deferred cannot be calculated..."); modernizing heights and implementing real-time water level and current observing systems in all major commercial ports (\$6.8 - \$9.0 million savings per year in Tampa Bay and \$14.8 - \$18.3 million savings per year (Estimated Annual Benefits of PORTS®)); strengthening NOAA's navigation services emergency response and recovery capabilities ("According to an economic analysis released by the Port, the nine-day closure [during Hurricane Katrina and other 2005 storms] resulted in

increases of energy costs to U.S. consumers exceeding \$1 billion); and, disseminating NOAA's hydrographic services data and products to achieve greatest public benefit ("collisions account for 80% of all reportable recreational boating accidents, and 78% of non-reportable accidents, totaling an estimated insurance loss of over \$450 million a year from nearly 100,000 claims. A major cause of claims is "striking a submerged object and groundings...").

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

255

#### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

The type of recommendation varies. For example, some are written as letters to the NOAA Administrator, or within letters making recommendations for policy changes. Others are verbatim or modified versions of recommendations from reports written by the HSRP's Working Groups and which the entire HSRP discusses and provides consensus recommendations. The total above represents the total of those made by the HSRP in letters, issue papers, and reports to the agency. In 2018, HSRP had 24 recommendations including: (1) Miami meeting, April 4-5: 1 issue paper - 3 recommendations; 2 updated issue papers - 7 recommendations; 1 recommendation letter - 8 recommendations; (2) Juneau, AK meeting August 26-28: 1 recommendation letter - 5 recommendations; and Comments on CO-OPS strategic plan - 1 recommendation and no issue papers.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

50%

#### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

Approximately 50% of the recommendations have been fully implemented. Of the other recommendations, some are pending, and others were directed, through NOAA, to outside agencies or organizations. The agency is not always able to implement the recommendations for a variety of organizational requirements and issues. Full implementation of many of the recommendations would require significant changes to the agency programs, budget, legislation, organization, thousands of dollars, and years to achieve. This is not always feasible, the recommendations are only able to be partially implemented or not at all. The recommendations may have longer term outcomes that are eventually partially or fully implemented.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or**

## **will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

23%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

There are 34 partially implemented recommendations. As noted above, the agency is not always able to partially implement the recommendations for a variety of organizational requirements and issues. Partial implementation of many of the recommendations would require significant changes to the agency programs, budget, organization, legislation, thousands of dollars, and years to achieve. This is not always feasible and the recommendations are only able to be partially implemented or may have longer term outcomes that are partially implemented.

### **Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

### **Agency Feedback Comments**

The Panel is provided feedback from the DFO and navigation services program officials, as well as from the Decision Maker. The DFO holds feedback teleconferences with the Panel Chair to improve committee and agency interactions. In addition, the NOAA Administrator responds to Panel recommendation letters with a NOAA response letter.

### **What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Action Comments**

The advice and recommendations from the Panel have helped and provided a catalyst to reinforce partnerships, rethink strategic plans, and drafted reauthorization language in the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, advanced the NOAA Fleet Recapitalization Study, included maritime interests in the Integrated Ocean Observing System program and the Committee for Marine Transportation, and input by NOAA management into NOAA's strategic planning process. Further, advice and recommendations from the Panel

also has helped NOAA seek potential collaborative efforts with other Federal partners in the maritime community and deeper understanding of customer and partner requirements.

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

NA

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Access Comments**

NOAA provides a public website for committee information.

<https://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/hsrp/hsrp.htm>